

*Occultations of Ceres and of Venus, observed at the Cambridge Observatory.**(Communicated by Professor Sir R. S. Ball, Director of the Observatory.)**Occultation of Ceres, 1897 November 13.*Reappearance. First seen G.M.T.  $11^h 31^m 29^s.2$ .

The observation was made with the Northumberland equatorial, aperture  $11\frac{3}{4}$  in. The seeing was fair. The planet was first seen as a very unsteady and ill-defined patch of light, which grew steadily brighter, and was estimated as of full brightness  $5^s$  after its first appearance.

*Occultation of Venus, 1898 May 22.*Disappearance. Second contact G.M.T.  $6^h 51^m 47^s.0$ .Reappearance. Third contact G.M.T.  $7^h 30^m 50^s.1$ .

The observations were made with the Northumberland equatorial. Seeing was very unsteady. First contact was missed. Bisection at disappearance was noted at  $6^h 51^m 27^s$ , which is uncertain by one or two seconds owing to the unsteadiness of the image. The planet lingered for several seconds as an irregular line of light, and then went out sharply, the observation of the time of second contact being noted as good. The observation of third contact was noted, "not more than half a second late, if so much." The seeing was so bad that no attempt was made to estimate the time of bisection at reappearance. The time of fourth contact was noted as  $7^h 31^m 30^s$ , which is uncertain by several seconds.

The observations were made by Mr. A. R. Hinks.

*Cambridge Observatory:*  
1898 May 25.

Observations of Comet b 1898 (Perrine) made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

The observations were made with the Sheepshanks equatorial, aperture 6·7 inches, by taking transits over two cross-wires at right angles to each other, and each inclined 45° to the parallel of declination. Magnifying power 55.

Greenwich Mean Solar Time.	Observer.	Corr. for Refraction.	Log Factor of Parallax.	Corr. for Refraction.	Log Factor of Parallax.	No. of Comps.	Apparent R.A. h m s	Apparent N.P.D. ° ′ ″	Comp. Star.
1898. May 18 12 8 9	A. C.	— 0 15 30 0 00	9 4644	— 0 27 0 — 0 1	0 9018	3	2 7 46 47	34 40 23 9	a

Notes.

The observations are corrected for refraction but not for parallax. They are also corrected for the error of inclination of the wires and for the motion of the comet.

The initials A. C. are those of Mr. Crommelin.

Comparison Star.

Star's Name.	Assumed R.A. 1898 <sup>o</sup> .	Assumed N.P.D. 1898 <sup>o</sup> .	Authority.
a B.D. + 55°, No. 552	2 8 1 31 h m s	34 40 59 9 ° ′ ″	Cambridge (U.S.) and Helsingfors-Gotha Astr. Gesell. Catalogues.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich:  
1898 June 10.